



FIRELINE

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

HOLIDAY ISSUE

Basic Firefighter Training Reimbursement Funds Available

Recently the State Fire Marshal's Office received questions regarding the Basic Firefighter Training Reimbursement Program funding. The Program is still being offered with funding available since July 1, 2009. Contract applications from any city fire department or fire protection district in the state of Washington are currently being accepted. Fire departments and districts are highly encouraged to submit their contract applications as soon as possible.

This program is designed to reimburse Washington fire departments and districts for basic firefighter training...

The State Fire Marshal's Office has operated the Basic Firefighter Training Reimbursement Program since 1999, with an average budget of over \$1 million per year. This program is designed to reimburse Washington fire departments and districts for basic firefighter training, providing up to 200 hours of training at \$3.00 per hour for each firefighter.

Training is available in 11 program modules covering Firefighter Safety, Firefighter Fundamentals, Live Fire Training, Firefighter I Certification, Local Needs Training, Wildland Firefighter Type 2, Operations Level Hazardous Materials Training, Firefighter II, Basic Command, Skill Maintenance and Certification Training.

Further information regarding the Basic Firefighter Training Reimbursement Program is located on the State Fire Marshal's Office website at <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/fire/basicff1.htm>. Questions can be directed to Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Paul Snider at 360.596.3928 or paul.snider@wsp.wa.gov.

WFCA Board of Directors' Update

On October 9, WFCA President Bill Gates resigned his position effective immediately. The association bylaws call for the Vice President to fill the position in the event of the President's resignation; therefore, Robert Skaggs will serve as president through the term which expires December 31, 2009.

The following are election results from the recent conference in Spokane.

2010 OFFICERS

President: Robert Skaggs, Graham Fire & Rescue

See WFCA Board on Page Four

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message 2

Conference Recap 3

Legislative Day 5

Classified Ads 5



A Message from the President *by Bob Skaggs*



I would like to thank all of you who attended our annual convention in Spokane, and for those of you who could not attend, I encourage you to try to participate in next year's conference. The education opportunities and networking with other elected officials is still the best value going in this economy.

The experience of having to go from vice president to president in less than two weeks was something that I or your association has never experienced. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members in attendance for their understanding of the issue before the convention and the professional manner of the membership in the way we all worked through the problem together.

As you know, we all have been working very hard on the residential fire sprinklers requirements found in the International Fire Code (IRC).

I am happy to report that because of the fire service's efforts, we have won a victory with the International Code Council's Residential Building Code Committee: on October 28, 2009, the committee rejected the request by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) to repeal the requirements for residential sprinklers in new homes by a vote of 7 to 4 and 1 who did not vote.

This was a very significant vote, because 7 of 12 members of the committee stood up against the 4 members appointed by the NAHB. When they lost the committee vote, the NAHB attempted to use a

...Next year will again be an economic challenge for all of us; I ask that you share your ideas with your fellow fire commissioners on how we can all be successful in 2010...

new ICC process to allow the members present to overrule the committee's decision. The committee stood firm on its decision to protect our citizens.

So where do we go from here? If the state adopts the recommendations of the State Building Code Council (SBCC), and we don't see any reason why they won't, we need to begin the process of working with our local code officials to have them adopt appendix S of the IRC, (The WABO Compromise, which passed 12-0) where the requirements for sprinklers in new homes are located.

One of our top goals for 2010 is to maintain the financial stability of the WFCA through a zero increase in our regular operating budget and provide for increased revenues through administrative efficiencies.

Also, the WFCA will continue to be very active on the legislative front with the new legislative roundtable scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2010 in Yakima. This roundtable will provide a full-day to review, discuss and prioritize the issues important to Washington fire districts.

Next year will again be an economic challenge for all of us; I ask that you share your ideas with your fellow fire commissioners on how we can all be successful in 2010, and keep the lines of communication open. When we do that, we help to ensure there will never be a surprise that we will have to deal with. Have a safe and happy holiday season with your family and friends, and I look forward to working with all of you in 2010.

ON THE WEB

Districts that participate in the WFCA health care program can access a website dedicated solely to the plan by logging onto wfca-benefits.com. You may also access the site by logging onto www.wfca.wa.gov and select "Website" from the drop-down menu under the "Health Care Program" tab.



61st Annual Conference Recap

The WFCAs 61st Annual Conference was held October 22-24 at the Doubletree Hotel in Spokane. The following is a recap of conference.

MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Congratulations to the 2009 Management Excellence Award participants for their great work. Winners include:

Category A (\$1M+ Budget)

1st Place: **Graham Fire & Rescue**

2nd Place: **South King Fire & Rescue**

3rd Place: **Clark County Fire & Rescue**

Category B (Budget of \$500,000 - \$999,999):

1st Place: **Skagit County FPD 8**

2nd Place: **Anderson Island Fire-Rescue**

Category C (\$250-499K Budget)

1st Place: **Skagit County FPD 13**

2nd Place: **Jefferson County FPD 4**

Category D (Budget under \$250,000)

1st Place: **Mason County FPD 18**

COMMISSIONER RECOGNITION

Commissioner recognition awards, honoring service for 10, 15, 20 and 25 years, were presented as follows:

10 Year Award (Honorary Life Membership)

Richard Houts (Clallam 3), **Robert D. Weber** (Grant 10), **Dale Hensley** (Grays Harbor 2), **Robert Pontius & David Wheeler** (Port Ludlow Fire & Rescue), **Robert Miller** (Woodinville Fire & Life Safety), **Mark Freitas** (South King Fire & Rescue), **Deborah D. Evans** (Klickitat 11), **John Pollman & A. H. "Red" Rogers** (Lewis 14), **Curtis Bennett** (Mason 4), **Terry Bowser** (Skagit 8), **Richard Small** (Thurston 8).

15 Year Award

Scott Carpenter (Benton 1), **Michael J. Lambrecht & James R. Johnson** (Clark Co. Fire & Rescue), **Bruce R. Carman** (North Whidbey Fire & Rescue), **Jess Bondurant, Jr.** (Jefferson 1), **James Fos-**

sos (South King Fire & Rescue), **Gillian Gregory & Wilson Stewart** (North Kitsap Fire & Rescue), **Roger Castle & Jim Hiebert** (Pend Oreille 8), **Daniel R. Rankin** (Pierce 3), **Alan Mehlenbacher** (Walla Walla 5).

20 Year Award

Dwight Vander Vorste (Grant 10), **Steven C. Hora** (Grays Harbor 3), **Dave Gelsleichter** (South Kitsap Fire & Rescue), **Fernando Espinosa** (North Kitsap Fire & Rescue), **Rick Kuss** (Pierce 22).

25 Year Award

Jerry Harris (South King Fire & Rescue), **John Ruthford** (Skagit 8), **Michael Burnett** (Whatcom 17).

Congratulations to these commissioners for their years of dedication to the fire service.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The association would like to thank the following individuals and companies whose contributions and support helped make the conference such a success:

Instructors/presenters **Rick Buell**, **Ward Knable**, **Joe Marshall**, **Jim Mathis**, **Robert Merritt**, **Joe Quinn**, **Dave Ralston**, **Brian Snure** and **Jim Walkowski** for sharing their expertise...

Education Committee Chair **Les Riel** and members **Ken Anderson**, **Lee Boling**, **Ed Egan**, **Bob Miller**, **Robert Muhleman**, **Mark Thompson** and **Roy Waugh** for selecting pertinent topics for the conference workshops and assisting with introductions of instructors...

Conference Host Committee Co-Chairs **Joe Dawson** and **Jack Hensley** and the participating **Spokane County Fire Commissioners** for their assistance...

Election Committee Chair **Ben Cavalli, Jr.** and the Elections Committee members for running a smooth voting process...

Chris Elwell, **Noel Hardin**, **Brad Langdell**, **Larry Nelson**, and **John Ricks** for assisting with speeches and presentations...

See Recap on Page Four

WFCA Board From Page One

Vice President:* **Sharon Colby, Spokane 3

Secretary-Treasurer: **Miland Walling**, Klickitat 2

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

***Region 1:* **Joe Dawson**, Spokane Valley Fire Department
Region 3: **Dwight VanderVorst**, Grant 10

Region 5: **Steve Lich**, Camano Island Fire & Rescue

Region 7: **Jerry Strong**, West Thurston Regional Fire Authority

Region 9: **Steve Neupert**, North

Kitsap Fire & Rescue.

These individuals join existing WFCA Board Directors **Emilio Buttice**, Walla Walla 4 (Region 2); **Ken Eakin**, Yakima 12 (Region 4); **Jim Farrell**, Mountain View Fire and Rescue (Region 6); and **Keith Merritt**, Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue (Region 8).

Congratulations to those elected to the 2010 WFCA Board of Directors!

The association would like to thank the following individuals for their years of dedicated ser-

vice on the WFCA Board of Directors: **Bill Gates** (2006-2009), **Les Riel** (2005-2009), **Dennis Bjork** (1994-2009) and **Mick McKinley** (2007-09).

**On October 23*, Sharon Colby resigned as Region 1 Director and was appointed by the WFCA Board to fill the Vice President's position for the remainder of 2009.

***On October 23*, Joe Dawson was appointed by his region to fill the Region 1 position for the remainder of 2009.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

The WFCA will offer the following Saturday seminars in 2010:

- **NEW COMMISSIONER ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY**

FEBRUARY 20

Spokane Red Lion at the Park Hotel

OR

MARCH 27

Shilo Inn in Ocean Shores

- **FIRE DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE MEASURES RELATED TO FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSES**

JUNE 5

Chelan—Campbell's Resort

Mark your calendar and look for detailed information including registration form later this month.

Recap From Page Three

Richard Kistler for installing the 2010 Board of Directors...

Keith Merritt for assisting staff in so many ways...

Acting Sergeant-at-Arms **Dick Spring** and Parliamentarian **William Hansen** for their service and good work on behalf of the association...

Thursday morning breakfast buffet sponsors **Emergency Services Insurance Program** and **Rice, Fergus Miller Architecture & Planning** for an excellent meal, a great conference kick-off and their continued support of the association...

Refreshment break sponsors **Emergency Services Consulting International**, **Enduris**, **Mercer**, and **TCA Architecture-Planning** for their generous

support of the WFCA...

Silent Auction Co-Chairs **Kim Burrus** and **Lois Hensley**, and members **Carmy Buttice**, **Janice Langdell** and **Kathy McNulty** for their hard work on behalf of the Auction which benefits the Harborview Burn Center.

The conference could not happen without the assistance of all of the above-mentioned individuals and companies, as well as the fire commissioners, administrators, chiefs, secretaries, suppliers and others who attended. Thank you!

Next year's conference will take place at the Pasco Red Lion Hotel (October 28-30) (the Snure Seminar will be held Wednesday evening, October 27). See you there!

2010 Legislative Day Scheduled for January 20th

The 2010 WFCA/WFC Legislative Day is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20th in Olympia. The event will take place in the state Legislative Building (Columbia Room).

Legislative Day will kick off at 9 a.m. with a morning workshop to review and discuss issues that the Washington Fire Commissioners Association and the Washington Fire Chiefs are working on in the legislative arena.

Time will be allotted for participants to visit with their legislators (10 a.m. to 12 noon)—we encourage

you to schedule these appointments through your legislators' administrative assistants.

There will also be time to talk with your elected officials during the luncheon which is scheduled at 12 noon. Please be sure to extend a personal invitation to your legislators!

For those wishing overnight accommodations, the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia is extending a \$102 rate; call 1.800.733.5466 and be sure to mention you are with the Fire Commissioners/Fire Chiefs Legislative Day. The room rate is

offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so make your reservations early. NOTE: The rate will no longer be available after January 5.

Event details and registration forms were mailed and emailed to WFCA and WFC members. Log onto www.wfca.wa.gov (access the brochure from the FireWire on the homepage).

If you have questions concerning Legislative Day, please feel free to call the WFCA office at 1.800.491.9322. See you in Olympia on January 20th.

Ads

FOR SALE by Clallam 2 (Port Angeles): '01 Ford Crown Victoria 'Police Special', 128K mi. Incl: Code 3 light bar w/control box & siren, Opticom (optional), radio & scanner antennas & wiring (no radio or scanner), Setina push bar (not mounted), four spare wheels with Blizzak winter tires. May be viewed @ www.clallamfire2.org. Accepting offers: email Dep Chief Oakes at deputy@clallamfire2.org.

FOR SALE by Paradise Valley Fire Dist (Idaho): District has surplus '75 American La France Fire Eng, Detroit 8v-71n 350 HP, American La France Twin Flow 1500 gpm pump 2 stages, Fuller 5 speed trans, 1000 gal tank, exc cond, passed pump test 6/13/09, DOT inspec done 11/08, hour meter 2,615, 105,254 mi, \$7,999 OBO. Call Chief Johnson @ 208.267.7909, 208.304.4565 / email chiefjock@nidaho.net. No hose/ladder comes w/ truck. Dist has original manuals & paperwork.

SURPLUS ENGINE TO DEPARTMENT IN NEED offered by Graham Fire & Rescue: District is offering to any dept in need a surplus engine: '79 Pierce Engine; 3 in-cab positions / 3 rear-facing, partial open cab design; Traffic yellow in color; Cab-forward design, mid-ship mounted 1,500 gpm pump; Mechanically sound & maintained condition; Right-side, top mounted booster reel w/100' "red line" & nozzle; Left-side, top mounted hard suction hoses (1- 2-1/2-inch and 1- 4-inch); No other mounted equipment is offered; Engine is surplus to the needs of Graham Fire & Rescue; The Engine is offered at no cost, "As

is; Where is" w/no warranties either express or implied. Asst. Ch. Ryan Baskett is contact for disposal of this Engine. The dept that takes possession of this Engine must bear all costs associated to relocating this Engine. Interested parties should send an email of interest including a brief description of need to Ch. Baskett at rbaskett@grahamfire.org. Chief Baskett may also be reached for any questions at 253.548.2504.

WANTED by San Juan 2: Used 3" hose, 6" hard suction & steamer port adapters. Need up to 3000' of 3" hose coupled w/2.5". ANY serviceable hose from 50' is appreciated. Also need used lightweight 6" threaded hard suction or just the re-usable ends. Also needed are 6" female to 5" male steamer port adapters. Lightweight not necessary. We will pick up at your location. Contact Chief Mike Harris @ 360.622.6056. Thank You!

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT by the Cowlitz 6: Lateral Firefighter/Paramedic or Lateral Captain/Paramedic. Candidates with the necessary knowledge, skills, abilities, education and experience are invited to apply. Application packets may be requested by one of the following methods: 1) in person at Fire District 6, 146 A St. S.W., Castle Rock; 2) email request to tpalmer@cowlitz6fire.org.

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT by the City of Woodland: Fire Chief, \$73,332 - \$89,316. For a complete job description and application materials, please visit the Prothman Company at <http://www.prothman.com/Current.htm>.





WASHINGTON
FIRE COMMISSIONERS
ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 134
OLYMPIA WA 98507

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
OLYMPIA, WA
PERMIT NO. 268

WASHINGTON FIRE
COMMISSIONERS
ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 134
OLYMPIA WA 98507

(360) 943-3880
1-800-491-WFCA (9322)
FAX (360) 664-0415

WFCA@WFCA.WA.GOV
WWW.WFCA.WA.GOV

LOCATION

605 11TH AVE. S.E.
SUITE 205
OLYMPIA WA 98501

OFFICE HOURS

8:30AM - 4:30PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT ROBERT SKAGGS • GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
VICE PRESIDENT..... SHARON COLBY • SPOKANE 3
SECRETARY | TREASURER LES RIEL • YAKIMA 4

DIRECTORS

REGION 1 JOE DAWSON • SPOKANE VALLEY FIRE DEPT.
REGION 2 EMILIO BUTTICE • WALLA WALLA 4
REGION 3 DENNIS BJORK • GRANT 5
REGION 4 KEN EAKIN • YAKIMA 12
REGION 5 STEVE LICH • CAMANO ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE
REGION 6 JAMES FARRELL • MOUNTAIN VIEW FIRE & RESCUE
REGION 7 JERRY STRONG • LITTLEROCK FIRE & RESCUE
REGION 8 KEITH MERRITT • COWLITZ 2 FIRE & RESCUE
REGION 9 MICK MCKINLEY • CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE & RESCUE

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ROGER FERRIS